

2. (original) A biodegradable polyester resin composition of claim 1, wherein the aliphatic polyester (A) is a polylactic acid polymer.

3. (original) A biodegradable polyester resin composition of claim 1, which has a melt viscosity of 0.2 to 10g/10 minutes as expressed by a melt flow rate value.

4. (original) A preparation method for a biodegradable polyester resin composition comprising the step of melt-kneading an aliphatic polyester (A), a (meth)acrylic ester (B1) and/or a glycidyl ether (B2), and an organic peroxide (C), whereby the biodegradable polyester resin composition is prepared as containing a thermoplastic polymer comprising 100 parts by mass of the aliphatic polyester (A) and 0.01 to 5 parts by mass of the (meth)acrylic ester (B1) and/or the glycidyl ether (B2) and having a gelation index (1) of not lower than 0.1% and a gelation index (2) of not higher than 0.5%.

5. (original) A preparation method of claim 4, wherein the aliphatic polyester (A) is melt-kneaded, and a solution or a dispersion of the (meth)acrylic ester (B1) and/or the glycidyl ether (B2) and the organic peroxide (C) is injected into the aliphatic polyester (A) during the melt-kneading of the aliphatic polyester (A), followed by agitating and kneading.

6. (original) A preparation method of claim 4, wherein the aliphatic polyester (A) and the organic peroxide (C) are melt-kneaded, and a solution or a dispersion of the (meth)acrylic ester (B1) and/or the glycidyl ether (B2) is injected into the resulting mixture during the melt-kneading of the aliphatic polyester (A) and the organic peroxide (C), followed by agitating and kneading.

7. (currently amended) A preparation method of claim 5 [[or 6]],
wherein a kneader is used,
wherein a lower pressure region is defined downstream of a region in which the aliphatic polyester (A) is melted in the kneader, and the injection is carried out in

the lower pressure region,

wherein the (meth)acrylic ester (B1) and/or the glycidyl ether (B2) are agitated and kneaded in a position of the injection and/or downstream of the position of the injection with respect to a direction of flow of the melted resin in the kneader, so that the resulting biodegradable polyester resin composition has a gelation index (1) of not lower than 0.1 % and a gelation index (2) of not higher than 0.5 %.

8. (currently amended) A biodegradable resin foamed article which is produced by foaming a biodegradable polyester resin composition of ~~any one of claim~~[[s]] 1 [[to 3]].

9. (currently amended) A biodegradable resin molded article which is produced by extruding a biodegradable polyester resin composition of ~~any one of claim~~[[s]] 1 [[to 3]].

10. (currently amended) A biodegradable resin molded article which is produced by injection-molding a biodegradable polyester resin composition of ~~any one of claim~~[[s]] 1 [[to 3]].

11. (currently amended) A biodegradable resin molded article which is produced by blow-molding a biodegradable polyester resin composition of ~~any one of claim~~[[s]] 1 [[to 3]].

12. (new) A preparation method of claim 6,
wherein a kneader is used,

wherein a lower pressure region is defined downstream of a region in which the aliphatic polyester (A) is melted in the kneader, and the injection is carried out in the lower pressure region,

wherein the (meth)acrylic ester (B1) and/or the glycidyl ether (B2) are agitated and kneaded in a position of the injection and/or downstream of the position of the injection with respect to a direction of flow of the melted resin in the kneader, so that

the resulting biodegradable polyester resin composition has a gelation index (1) of not lower than 0.1 % and a gelation index (2) of not higher than 0.5 %.

13. (new) A biodegradable resin foamed article which is produced by foaming a biodegradable polyester resin composition of claim 2.

14. (new) A biodegradable resin foamed article which is produced by foaming a biodegradable polyester resin composition of claim 3.

15. (new) A biodegradable resin molded article which is produced by extruding a biodegradable polyester resin composition of claim 2.

16. (new) A biodegradable resin molded article which is produced by extruding a biodegradable polyester resin composition of claim 3.

17. (new) A biodegradable resin molded article which is produced by injection-molding a biodegradable polyester resin composition of claim 2.

18. (new) A biodegradable resin molded article which is produced by injection-molding a biodegradable polyester resin composition of claim 3.

19. (new) A biodegradable resin molded article which is produced by blow-molding a biodegradable polyester resin composition of claim 2.

20. (new) A biodegradable resin molded article which is produced by blow-molding a biodegradable polyester resin composition of claim 3.

In The Specification:

Replace the paragraph at page 29, line 3 with the following rewritten paragraph:

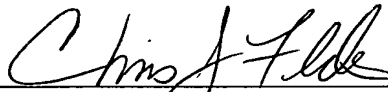
In conformity with ASTM-790, a ~~150mmx10mmx6mm~~ a 5"x1/2"x1/8" test strip was prepared, and the flexural modulus was measured with a load being applied to the test strip at a deformation rate of 1mm/min.

Delete the paragraph on page 29, lines 27-32 as follows:

Flexural modulus (MPa)

~~In conformity with JIS K7171, a test strip having a length of 80±2.0mm and a width of 10.0±0.2mm was prepared, and the flexural modulus was measured with a load being applied to the test strip at a deformation rate of 2mm/min.~~

Respectfully submitted,
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